

COUNTY CORRESPONDENCE.

NEWSY LETTERS FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.

Sum of Interest From all Parts of Sumter and Adjoining Counties.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mail your letters so that they will reach this office not later than Tuesday morning. When the letters are received Wednesday it is almost an impossibility to have them appear in the paper issued that day.

WEDGEFIELD.

Wedgefield, Nov. 30.—Under the auspices of the Wedgefield Rural School Improvement Association a carnival of the seasons was held in the auditorium of the graded school building on last Friday night from 8 to 11:30 o'clock. And as was expected, whenever the ladies of our community decide to do a certain thing, was as success from every standpoint.

As one ascended the stairway he or she was greeted with a scene of rare beauty. The members of the association ably assisted by the teachers and friends had been untiring in their efforts for the past two weeks preparing for the occasion, and the several committees on charge of the booths. Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter, Art Gallery and Fish Pond, especially the four former used rare talent in their effort to have the best reproduction of the season represented.

In addition to the booths, where one could for ten cents have refreshments served appropriate to the season, first was the Art Gallery, which reflected great credit on the designers. Next was the Fish Pond, where for five cents one would be sure of a catch of some kind, the pond was soon fished out.

In another conspicuous place was the gypsy tent, where for a dime the witch of fortune rendered from the shimmering caldron a prophecy revealing the future. Still another popular place was "Rebecca at the Well" where ice cold lemonade was served. The fancy work and home made candy departments, with many fancy hand made articles and delicious candies all the product of home talent proved to be the greatest financial success.

The large crowd in attendance which numbered visitors from Columbia, Charleston, Sumter, Hagood and other points showered congratulations on the association which were well deserved for the creditable and successful entertainment. The proceeds of the evening amounted to more than one hundred and fifty dollars.

Misses Maud Bookman and Annie Laurie Craig returned to Columbia last night after a pleasant visit to Mrs. R. W. Brice.

Miss Fannie DuVal of Cheraw has been the guest of Miss Ruth Harrington for the past few days.

Miss Alice Wilson of Columbia spent from Friday until Sunday with Miss Blanche Aycock.

Prof. H. W. Scott of Richland county spent the Thanksgiving holidays with friends here.

Miss Mabel Mellett who is teaching school near Bishopville and Miss Nina Mellett of Lamar spent the past few days with their aunt, Mrs. E. M. Mellett.

Misses Edna Ramsey and Kate Suong of Privateer spent Sunday with friends here.

Several parties around here went hunting on last Thursday and had the usual luck.

Mr. Leland Parler of Parler's is visiting his brother Dr. M. L. Parler.

This scribe has an invitation to the marriage of Miss Anna Burgess which takes place on Tuesday, the 8th inst. Our faithful Stateburg correspondent and I am sure we voice the sentiment of others who contribute to this page, when I say it is with regret that we are forced to give her up.

Mr. Alva Mellett has rented Dr. M. L. Parler's farm for another year.

Mr. L. C. Strange has two of the finest hogs the writer has ever seen they look as if each would weigh five hundred pounds. More hog and hominy is what the whole South needs and less acreage in cotton, and then the price of cotton will not worry us so much.

PRIVATEER.

Privateer, Dec. 2.—Thanksgiving passed off quietly without any accidents to the many hunters.

Miss Katie Susong, teacher of the Red Oak school spent the week's end with friends in Marion.

Miss Daisy Lide is spending some time with relatives in Hartsville.

Mr. Tom James of Sumter spent Sunday at Mrs. L. B. Jenkins.

Mrs. W. E. Tisdale of Paxville is spending the week at Mr. E. W. Rivers.

STATEBURG.

Stateburg, Dec. 1.—Mr. T. D. Brown of Wedgefield was the guest of Dr. Matt Moore on Sunday.

Miss Emma Barnwell leaves tomorrow for Acton, where she goes to attend the marriage of Miss Singleton.

Mr. F. P. Burgess of Manning spent Sunday at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Richardson arrived in Stateburg on Monday and are residing at "Farm Hill."

Mr. Early Mellette spent Sunday at home.

Miss Lottie Nelson is expected to return this winter, after an extended visit to friends in Charleston, Edisto Island, and Summerville.

Mr. W. D. Frierson, of Sumter, spent Sunday at home.

Master Hall Ramsey, of the Sumter High School, spent the week end at home with his parents, and enjoyed hunting the feathered tribe.

Mr. J. Singleton Moore has been spending a few days at "The Ruins."

The following very attractive invitations have been received by the many friends of Miss Tillie Flud and of Miss Anna Parker Burgess:

Weather Forecast

for

Miss Anna Parker Burgess Friday, Dec. 4th, A China Shower, beginning at 3.30 p. m.

followed by continued fair weather.

Weather Forecaster,

Tillie Flud.

Home of Mrs. W. R. Flud, "Wood-lawn."

MAX

Max, Dec. 3.—Miss Betsy Pigate of Lynchburg, was buried at Bethel yesterday. The funeral was conducted by Rev. B. K. Truluck.

Rev. B. K. Truluck will attend the Baptist State convention next week.

A large amount of goods was sold very cheap during the three days clearance sale by the Olanta Mercantile company last week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Truluck and Mrs. Sutcliffe of Lake City visited at Mr. B. C. Truluck yesterday.

Dr. and Mrs. H. T. Kirby visited at Mr. J. A. M. Carraway's Sunday and Monday.

There was rather an odd hunting party seen this morning—two gentlemen, three ladies and one dog. Two of the party, whose age was past the half hundred mark. All seemed to enjoy the ramble, although no game was found and only one bird killed.

Mr. B. B. Thomson will move to North Carolina at an early date.

Mrs. W. J. McBride visited her mother Mrs. Hatchel and her brother Mot of Elvin section. Her brother has typhoid fever.

Mr. Elijah Nettles spent last week with his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Tilton, of Sampit.

The weather is cool and threatening.

Hester's Weekly Statement.

New Orleans, Dec. 4.—Secretary Hester's weekly cotton statement issued today shows for the four days of December an increase over last year of 150,000 and an increase over the same period year before last of 64,000.

For the 95 days of the season that have elapsed the aggregate is ahead of the same days last year 1,860,000 and ahead of the same days year before last 675,000. The amount brought into sight during the past week has been 644,775 bales against 474,874 for the same days last year and 553,844 year before last.

The movement since September 1 shows receipts of all United States ports to be 4,885,017 against 3,557,764 last year; overland across the Mississippi, Ohio and Potomac rivers to Northern mills and Canada 470,903 against 194,332 last year; Interior stocks in excess of those held at the close of the commercial year 675,582 against 363,541 last year year; Southern mills takings 712,000 against 750,142. The total movement since September 1 is 6,743,504 against 4,883,779.

Foreign exports for the week have been 366,015 against 368,058 last year, making the total thus far for the season 3,351,305 against 2,673,968 last year.

The total takings of American mills, North South and Canada, thus far for the season have been 1,785,434 against 1,323,922 last year.

Stocks at the Seaboard and the 29 leading Southern interior centres have increased during the week 92,485 bales against an increase during the corresponding period of last season of 7,628.

Including stocks left over at ports and interior towns from the last crop and the number of bales brought into sight thus far from the new crop, the supply to date is 7,024,851 against 5,221,785 for the same period last year.

A Correction.

In an account of the Civic League carnival, published in the Watchman and Southern, it was stated that the Gen. Sumter Memorial Academy generously volunteered their assistance. This is a mistake, as their assistance was solicited by the League and greatly appreciated.

ISABEL STEWART MAYES, Secretary Civic League.

If no fight, no victory; no victory, no crown.—Savonarola.

RAILWAY FINED FOR REBATING.

Chesapeake & Ohio Pleads Guilty to Charges, and Was Fined \$9,000.—W. R. Johnson & Company Also Punished.

Richmond, Va., Dec. 4.—By agreement of counsel the Chesapeake & Ohio railway and W. R. Johnson & Company, pleaded guilty to rebating before Judge Waddill late today and were fined by the court, the Chesapeake & Ohio \$9,000 and Johnson \$4,500.

The railway was fined \$1,000 each on nine counts and Johnson was fined \$1,500 on the first and 11,000 each on three other counts.

In view of this voluntary proceedings, other counts in the indictments were not pressed, no motion of Judge L. L. Lewis, United States district attorney, and John H. Marble, counsel for the interstate commerce commission. Counsel stated to the court that their principals knew nothing of the violation as alleged, but that the law was so broad they thought conviction was certain on the indiscretion of their agents and H. O. Gates, and therefore adopted this course.

This action follows the verdict of the jury in the same court yesterday, finding A. P. Gilbert, assistant general freight agent, not guilty. Gilbert had been on trial for 10 days, H. O. Gates, clerk for Johnson & Co., grain dealers, having secured immunity from prosecution by turning State's evidence, his statements in reference to Gilbert being denied and the jury taking only six minutes to reach a verdict of not guilty in Gilbert's case.

THREE ARRESTS IN CHARLESTON.

Secretary Rice Eats Birds and Swears Out Warrants.

Charleston, Dec. 4.—Warrants for the arrest of W. J. Hanlon, manager of the Charleston hotel, Melchior Stelling, manager of the Palace cafe, and J. E. Baker, steward of the Argyle hotel, were sworn out by James Henry Rice, Jr., of the Audubon Society of South Carolina before Magistrate O'Shaughnessy, charging these defendants with violating the State game statute which prohibits the selling of quail or partridge. Before Judicial Magistrate Baker this morning the defendants pleaded guilty and were sentenced \$5 each or five days in jail. They promptly paid the fines.

State Secretary Rice, who has won fame by arresting several milliners in South Carolina for selling non-game bird feathers in hat trimmings, stated today that he had been unable to find any egret feathers or other unlawful plumes in the windows of the Charleston milliners and had only seen one egret feather in a hat on the streets. This was worn by a lady whom he presumed to be a stranger here.

He leaves Charleston this afternoon, after having obtained the three convictions for the unlawful selling of quail in the dining room of the Charleston hotel, in the Palace cafe and in the restaurant of the Argyle hotel. He expects to return later and will then devote considerable attention to enforcing the law which requires visiting sportsmen to get a shooting license from the clerk of court that can be procured for \$10. There is a fine of \$100 to which the visiting sportsmen are liable for not holding a hunting license, and it is accumulative, according to Mr. Rice, who contends that it is possible to impose the fine for every day that follows the offense until detection.

The warrant which Mr. Rice swore out against Steward J. E. Baker of the Argyle for selling quail says that he bought a quail at the Argyle hotel restaurant for 75 cents on Wednesday, Dec. 2. It is not unlawful to buy a quail at a restaurant and so the representative of the Audubon society, since the quail was killed and well cooked, ate the same. The warrant against Manager Hanlon of the Charleston hotel recited the charge that quail had been sold there. Mr. Rice ate two quail at the Palace cafe on Wednesday, paying \$1.50 for the birds. They were also well cooked and made excellent evidence, which the game secretary destroyed with a knife and fork. Judicial Magistrate Baker today imposed a light sentence upon each of the defendants, as these were the first cases against them. The maximum sentence is \$30 or 30 days in jail.

Mr. Rice wears an official badge, which proclaims him a representative of the Audubon Society of South Carolina. This badge is over the left lapel of his coat. He does not work secretly, but enters a restaurant or millinery store openly and makes his investigation. The three convictions here today make the total number secured by the society 107 for the year.

It is declared to be true that fashionable women wear tassels on their stockings, and the doubting Thomases are waiting for a windy day.

The eagle does not war against frogs.—Italian.

Perry Ussery was shot and killed in Barnwell by an unknown assassin.

WILL HEAR DISPENSARY CASE.

United States Supreme Court Fixes the Date—February 23 Set for Hearing—Ray Contempt Case to be Heard at Greenville in a Few Days.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The Supreme Court of the United States today decided to advance the dispensary case for a hearing and set February 23 next as the date. Application for an advance hearing and for a writ of certiorari to the Circuit Court of Appeals was made last Monday.

It was set out in the petition and affidavit that at the present time there is a conflict between the Supreme Court of the State of South Carolina and the Circuit Court of Appeals, one ordering the \$500,000 fund to be paid out and the other ordering that it be held. On these grounds the Supreme Court is asked to advance the case and give it an immediate hearing.

The Wilson Distilling Company was represented last week by its counsel, T. Moultrie Mordecai and Frank Carter, and the Fleischman Company by its counsel, Geo. B. Lester.

It is understood that counsel for the Wilson Distilling Company and the Fleischman Company will appear specially and ask for an increase of the record, claiming that the record in this case does not contain sufficient facts concerning the Federal Court below to enable the United States Supreme Court to pass upon the questions involved; that proceedings are now pending to attach Ray Brothers for contempt of court in instituting the mandamus case in the Supreme Court of South Carolina.

The contempt hearing is set for an early date before Judge Pritchard at Greenville.

It is said also that counsel for the liquor interests will ask to be allowed to take part in the arguments before the United States Supreme Court in the Ray case when it is heard.

If Judge Pritchard should attach the Rays for contempt, they might apply to the United States Supreme Court on habeas corpus grounds, and the whole question of jurisdiction brought up and determined in this way.

P. H. McG.

SIX TONS OF OLEO SEIZED.

Revenue Officers Say Imitation Butter Was Misrepresented.

Philadelphia, Dec. 4.—More than 12,000 pounds of oleomargarine, shipped by the Narragansett Dairy Company, of Narragansett, R. I., to the Eastern Provision Company, of this city, were confiscated at a freight station here tonight by United States Internal Revenue agents.

The revenue officers say that while the oleo is artificially colored it was being handled as an uncolored product and, as such, the manufacturers paid a government tax of one-fourth of a cent a pound, as against a tax of 10 cents, necessary on colored oleomargarine.

By this means the manufacturers were able to sell the colored product at a lower figure than competitors.

R. G. Posenor, manager of the Narragansett concern, was in the city when the seizure was made. He protested, and declaring the company had complied with the laws.

Only Two Papers in Darlington County Now.

The consolidation of the Darlington News and the Darlington Press leaves now only two newspapers in Darlington county—one at Hartsville and one at Darlington, and this is enough.

The publishing of a newspaper is not an easy job. One paper in a town of from one to five thousand inhabitants can be made to pay, if the business men will give it a liberal patronage. The trouble is, so few towns appreciate the value of a newspaper, and many people think that an editor is a kind of supernatural being, or that he is made up of vapor gas of some other non-tangible something, and that he is a nothingless nothing, so to speak, but such a conception is a grand mistake, and a big error.

A newspaper to succeed, must collect its dues "jam-up." The price obtained for advertising, printing and subscriptions is very low with most of the weekly papers, we know anything about, compared with the cost of publishing. Once a correct understanding of the newspaper business is fixed in the minds of the masses, and a correct appreciation of the value of the press is arrived at, then the dignity and the success of the business will be assured.—Hartsville Messenger.

Manning will not permit any liquor selling but, if reports are true, there is a very active business going on in several sections of the county. A gentleman told us that on last Friday he saw a number of men from this county in Sumter with corn sacks full of liquor to bring back home with them, and he is satisfied, these people did not get all of this stuff for their own use.—Times.

Robert Counts, colored, who was shot several weeks ago by Jailer Anderson while trying to escape from the jail at Florence, is dead as a result of the wound.

A SENSATIONAL CASE.

Prominent Georgia Man's Attempt to Kidnap Young Lady.

Thomasville, Ga., Dec. 5.—W. H. Mitchell, alderman and former county treasurer of Thomasville, was today found guilty of the charge of assault and battery on his former ward, Miss Lucille Linton, who was his wife's most intimate friend. The verdict was returned by the jury after an all night session and was received by the defendant with little show of emotion. His wife, however, who has been with him throughout the trial, is almost prostrated. Mitchell was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment.

A remarkable feature of the case was that although the indictment was for attempted criminal assault, nothing in the evidence related to this assault charge. The entire case centered about a romantic and unsuccessful attempt to kidnap Miss Linton. Neither side presented evidence to solve the mystery of why Miss Linton, a prominent and wealthy woman, should be the victim of a would-be kidnapper.

Bradstreet's Review of Trade Conditions.

New York, Dec. 4.—Bradstreet's tomorrow will say:

"Weather conditions have been irregular, but the arrival of a cold wave following unseasonably mild temperatures has stimulated retail trade North, West and East, and even helped business at the South at some points, though holding of cotton and low prices therefor have tended to check buying in the cotton belt as a whole. Collections have shared in the irregularity in trade, and there is noticeably more complaint as to these than as to business generally, but more particularly at the South. Heavy wearing apparel, shoes and coal have been helped by climatic developments. Holiday trade, too, shows signs of expansion and comparisons with a year ago in all lines are not naturally in favor of current business. In some lines of cottons and iron and steel, there is rather less doing, partly because of large business recently booked, partly because of a desire to see what the next month or so will bring forth and also because of recent advances in many prices. Many early spring trade wants have, in fact, been filled, and there is still some conservatism as to buying ahead, more particularly as the tariff situation is still a subject of congressional inquiry. In manufacturing there are no evidences of halting in the tendency toward expansion of output previously noted and the preparations made or making in this line give signs of a large trade being booked in 1909.

"Business failures in the United States for the week ending December 3, number 222 against 193 last week."

BISHOPVILLE RID OF CARNIVAL.

Fakirs, Gamblers and Thieves Seek Another Hunting Ground.

Bishopville, Dec. 3.—The so-called "Carnival" crowd, whose coming was hailed with so much delight by the business men of the town, left on a special train early Monday morning.

Bishopville has had several aggregations of like character before, but never in her history has she been visited by such an unmixed variety of fakirs. The terrible "wild man from Borneo," the very mention of whose name by the "barkers" would cause a shudder to run over the spinal column of the average Bishopville bad boy, was a harmless negro youth picked up on a neighboring farm, and the wonderful Abyssinian with the ring in his nose walked round among the dusky damsels, exhibiting the celluloid appendage after the shows had suspended business for the night.

The gamblers were skillful in evading the police, but on Thursday, Mayor Scarborough closed up all the games of chance, and great was the howling among the gamblers and their followers. There is no telling all the mischief carried on by the gang—ladies and gentlemen had their pockets picked or hand satchels stolen—many persons lost watches, rolls of money and other valuables. On Thursday evening the police raided an innocent looking car beyond the depot and corralled eleven of the crowd with the goods on them. They were carried before his honor, the mayor, who advised them to seek another camping ground more salubrious than Bishopville, and they accordingly folded their tents like the Arabs, and silently stole away.—Cor. News and Courier.

Two hundred bales of cotton and the store and stock of the Farmers' Wholesale Grocery Co., the freight and passenger station of the L. and C. road and several cotton seed warehouses were destroyed by fire at Richburg. The loss is estimated at \$30,000.

Representative Champ Clark, of Missouri, was unanimously chosen minority leader of the house of representatives, at the Democratic caucus in Washington Saturday, to succeed Senator-elect John Sharp Williams.

PATTEN HOLDS WHEAT CORNER

20,000,000 Bushels, Biggest Deal on Record, May Bring \$1.40.

Chicago, Dec. 3.—James A. Patten, the corn king, with his partners, today controls 20,000,000 bushels of wheat—more wheat than any one crowd of men ever held in Chicago, the scene of the world's biggest corn deals, and \$1.40 wheat is looked for on the board of trade as a result of the colossal deal.

With Mr. Patten in the big ring are William H. Bartlett, George W. Patten and Frank B. Frazer. It is bigger than the Joe Letter deal when that young plunger lost \$9,000,000 just after the world's fair. It is bigger than the John W. Gates corner, in which millions were lost by the cornerer four years ago. It is bigger at least by 5,000,000 bushels than anything "Old Hutch" ever attempted in the long ago.

And yet it is not a corner. It is merely a colossal deal. The Bartlett-Patten bull ring is not endeavoring to buy all the grain in the market and create an artificial condition, as "Old Hutch" did when he forced wheat up to \$2. Its purpose is merely to use to advantage what is believed to be a world-wide condition, and to have a large amount of wheat to sell when the price soars. In their opinion it will go to \$1.38 or \$1.40, not as a result of purchase, but because of a combination of circumstances around the world over which no man can control.

BOY SUES R. R. FOR HEAVY DAMAGES.

Albert Ledingham of This City Asks \$25,000 for Alleged Injuries Sustained Near Simpson Street in Atlanta.

The second trial of the suit of Albert Ledingham against the Southern railroad for \$25,000 damages was begun in the superior court Monday morning before Judge Ellis. Two months ago a mistrial verdict was returned.

Ledingham, who is a boy, alleges that he was injured at Simpson street by being jolted from a Southern passenger train. His leg was so badly crushed that it had to be amputated at the hip. He is represented by Harvey Hill and Archibald Davis. Dorsey, Brewster, Howell & Heyman represent the road.—Atlanta Journal.

Long Felt Want.

Gov. Ansel has written to all of the circuit judges calling their attention to the fact that the new reformatory and industrial school at Florence is now open and ready to receive such boys as the courts may under the terms of the act commit to the institution. Under the act establishing the reformatory, white boys between the ages of eight and sixteen, convicted of a crime for which the penalty or services on the chain gang, may be sent by the court to the reformatory, and any boy of the same age may be committed to the institution by his parent or guardian on approval of the judge of the circuit, probate or city court. There is now plenty of room at the reformatory, there being only about a dozen boys in the institution, most of whom were transferred from the penitentiary. This reformatory and industrial school fills a long felt want in South Carolina, and will prove a great benefit to the State in reforming boys who may go astray.

The county grand jury at Union City, Tenn., has returned 62 true bills in the night rider cases, directing the clerk of court to keep secret all names until the indictments are recorded. The reason for secrecy is that a number of those indicted have not yet been arrested.

Among the cases which have been considered by the United States grand jury now sitting in Boston, Mass., is that of the seizure of the schooner Frederick Walton in Pensacola, Fla., for alleged smuggling of Chinese into the country and the arrest of her commander and backer.

The citizens of Edgefield are preparing to make arrangements to hold a county fair next year.

The Washington Post gives the following as a list of some of the articles found in a Chicago bonded warehouse, supposed to be treasures taken from the monasteries in France at the time the Monks were driven from their religious homes:

"In the consignment were the following: One silk hand-woven and hand-worked robe, believed at one time to have been the property of a pope; several altar cloths, woven of pure silver and gold thread, with hand-made gold and silver fringe; pieces of velvet of antique design; church cloths and garments of fine texture; panels of designs taken from monasteries; Chinese draperies, apparently made centuries ago; Egyptian relics, and other articles of presumed historic interest."

Archibald was still under cross examination in the Standard Oil case yesterday.